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23 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

I have carefully reviewed the attached "CIA Financial Statement as of 30 June 1953" and have the following comments which I suggest be included in a memorandum to the Comptroller.

1. The report is both useful and necessary, as well as being a good job, and the Comptroller should be told this.
2. In the continuous development of this report, however, the Comptroller should remember that there is no point in collecting figures if they serve no useful purpose. Time should be spent preparing the separate parts of this report only if these separate parts actually prove to the readers to be worth the cost of preparing them. This should be continuously reviewed. In this connection, I question the usefulness of Tables 2a, 3a, 4a, and 5a, unless, however, the cost and time it takes to prepare these Tables is nominal.
3. The report presents past financial history. Each subsequent report gives us more recent history and is helpful partly because of the change in the use of the Agency dollar it points up. Therefore, I suggest each new report be submitted with covering memorandum which indicates the more important of these changes from a policy point of view. For

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this might be mentioned. Also, it could mention the significant changes in the distribution of funds between DD/A, DD/I, DD/P, Training, Communications, etc.

4. The report might give more emphasis to year by year comparisons. For example, year by year comparisons of Tables 1, 3, 4, and 5 would be of value and use.

5. The report, or an adjunct to it, might make comments or draw conclusions. For example, the Plans Group in FY 1953 was budgeted for [redacted] and

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obligated [REDACTED] This raises the questions as to whether there has been over-budgeting and over-alloting to too great an extent, whether this has been true each year, whether there is anything wrong here, and whether corrective action should be taken. In this connection, comment such as that in Note 5, Page 21, I think is good.

6. As far as paragraph 7 in the memorandum of transmittal, I believe the action indicated is necessary and that we should agree that it be taken in order to improve the technical quality of the report.

7. Regarding paragraph 10, I think distribution of the full report should be made to the DCI, D-DCI, DD/I, DD/P, Director of Training, AD/Commo, Comptroller, and Vital Documents.

8. As for frequency of preparation, I concur with the Comptroller that the full report should be prepared quarterly and that the Tables in Section I should be prepared monthly. However, I do not see the necessity in preparing Section III monthly, and I believe a quarterly basis sufficient.

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